

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.  
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# Wilmington Journal.

VOL. 22. WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 20, 1866. NO. 46.

**METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH.**  
Appointments: Wilmington District, First Round.  
St. Andrew's, at Bethel, Dec. 15 & 16, 22 & 23.  
St. James, at Bethel, Dec. 15 & 16, 22 & 23.  
St. John's, at Bethel, Dec. 15 & 16, 22 & 23.  
St. Luke's, at Bethel, Dec. 15 & 16, 22 & 23.  
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St. Zephaniah's, at Bethel, Dec. 15 & 16, 22 & 23.

**THE BEAUTY OF OLD AGE.**  
I often think that tottering form,  
That hangs along in life's decline,  
Once bore a heart as young as mine,  
As full of life as mine.  
And each had his dream of joy,  
And each his tale of sorrow;  
And each his tale of love and strife,  
And each his tale of sorrow.  
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**MEXICO.**  
Minister Bigelow's Reply to the Cable Telegram—Highly Satisfactory.  
[Special Dispatch to the N. Y. World.]  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—The Cabinet held a brief session to-day. Secretary Seward informed the Cabinet that Minister Bigelow's reply to the cable telegram of November twenty-third was highly satisfactory, and that no doubt need now be entertained but that the evacuation of Mexico by the French will proceed in good faith.  
The reply of Minister Bigelow to Mr. Seward's cable dispatch was as follows:  
In answer to your verbal communication, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. Montier, writes me to-day that France has not changed her resolution, but that upon military considerations has deemed it expedient to substitute one comprehensive evacuation for an evacuation in separate parts. All of our troops will leave Mexico in the month of March.

**The Radicals and the South.** Letter from Horace Greeley.  
From the Port Gibson (Mississippi) Standard.  
Some weeks ago, a gentleman from Jefferson county, Mississippi, addressed a letter to Horace Greeley, asking him, as one of the leaders of the Republican party, what the intentions of the party were with reference to the South. Mr. Greeley promptly replied in the following letter:  
ROCHESTER, N. Y., Oct. 28, 1866.  
DEAR SIR: Your letter finds me away from home, engaged in our political canvass. Leaving, with many others, I must answer hurriedly:  
1. I know of no considerable or influential portion of the people, North or West, who expect or desire any general or other confiscation of Southern property. I am personally acquainted with most Abolitionists of note—Gerrit Smith, Charles Sumner, Governor Chase, &c., and not one of them favors a policy of confiscation. Thad. Stevens and General Butler may be exceptions. General Butler being a new convert from the Democracy.  
2. Even the tax on cotton—though I think it falls (especially) mainly on the consumer, not the producer—is certain to be taken off very soon. It is sustained only because of the need of a local revenue.  
3. I am very sure that no Southern man, who remains quietly at home and attends to his business, will ever be troubled because of his part in the late rebellion. Assassinations and house-burnings may sometimes be prosecuted, but after those who profess to be Unionists than those who were Rebels.  
4. I think the general prevalent sentiment of the North was adverse to any action of the South, with regard to political rights for the black, till after the New Orleans riots. Since that time, however, and I think it is now the more prevalent opinion here that the better portion of the Southern whites will never protect the blacks from murder and outrage at the hands of the low-caste whites, and that the right of suffrage for the blacks is indispensable to their safety.

**Sanford Conover, A Demurrer.**  
On Friday last Mr. H. C. Gooding, counsel of the accused, filed the following demurrer to the indictment against Sanford Conover, alias Charles Dunham, for perjury, in connection with the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, committed by Charles A. Dunham, here and having the same indictment read, said that the first and second counts of the said indictment, and the matter therein contained, the manner and form as above stated and set forth are not sufficient in law, and that he is not bound by the law and he is ready to verify; whereupon the said Sanford Conover prays judgments of the said counts that he may be dismissed and discharged from the said premises in the said counts specified. It is possible that this demurrer will be argued in a few days.

**Singular Case of Suicide.**  
Some time since it was announced that a man at Titusville, Pennsylvania, committed suicide for the reason that he had discovered he was his own grandfather. Leaving a dying statement, explaining this singular circumstance, we will not attempt to unravel it, but give his explanation of the mixed-up condition of his kin-folk in his own words. He says: I married a widow who had a grown up daughter. My father visited our house very often. I fell in love with my step-daughter and married her. So my father became my son in law, and my step-daughter my mother, because she was my father's wife. Some time afterwards my wife had a son; he was my father's brother-in-law, and my uncle, for he was the brother of my step-mother. My father's wife—i. e., my step-daughter—had also a son; he was of course, my brother, and in the meantime my grand child, for he was the son of my daughter. My wife was my grandmother because she was my mother's mother. I was my wife's husband and grandchild at the same time. And as the husband of a person's grandmother is his grandfather, I was my own grandfather. That this was a strange condition of things must be confessed, but we can see no possible reason why it should cause a man to commit suicide.

**NEWS ITEMS.**  
Lizet has finished his oratorio of "Christ." A Nevada miner owns a brick valued at \$6,000.  
Twenty-two Wisconsin banks are winding up.  
Chattanooga, Tenn., is just now afflicted with a small pox epidemic.  
The velocity of the sun has been estimated at 422,000 miles per day.  
The State debt of Indiana is about seven million dollars.  
Large pantaloons or trousers, we see are to be the nobly style this winter.  
The emigration from Georgia to Texas is immense.  
Imperial concerts are given every Sunday in Paris.  
There was ice in Richmond on the morning of the 11th inst.  
A heavy snow has fallen on the plains, and out-going trains are suffering.  
An official report gives the number of deaths from cholera in St. Louis, from July 27 to November 9, at 3,527.  
The Georgia Senate has rejected the House bill preventing trains from running on Sunday.  
Five persons recently died at Crab Orchard, Ky., from eating fresh killed pork, supposed to have been affected by hog cholera.  
Onions finely chopped and mixed with Indian meal once or twice a week and fed to fowls, prevents the gapes and many other diseases that fowls are subject to.  
The New York 7th regiment has voted to decline the invitation of the Americans residing in Paris to visit that city, and has sent a letter notifying them of the fact.  
A locomotive on the Georgia railroad, to which was attached a freight train of eighteen cars, exploded a few days ago, killing the fireman and severely scalding the engineer.  
A genius of Jackson, Michigan, has had patented reversible boots and shoes, the merit of which is that they may be changed so that they will wear evenly. One pair of them is to wear a lifetime.  
"The work of a thousand men for four years" is the inscription upon the immense railroad bridge, which has just been erected across the Susquehanna River, at Havre de Grace, Md.  
The London compositors decline to join in the Reform demonstration. They say their society was established for trade purposes only, and they object to its machinery being employed for political purposes.  
Large stories are told of the proficiency, as a marksman, of Recorder Hackett, of New York. Any of his friends, it is said, had but to point between his fingers and allow him to hit it at ten paces, which he invariably does. He can knock the ashes off a gentleman's cigar while the cigar is in his mouth, with unvarying accuracy, and one of his principal amusements is to imitate William Tell, in shooting apples off his friend's head.

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[Pr. Adv. \$15.] 42-66

**THE SOLDIER'S GRAVE.**  
By F. H. HARRIS.  
Tread lightly, tread the soldier's grave,  
A lonely, lonely mound,  
And think of hearts like mine and thine,  
That should be holy ground.  
Speak softly, tread the soldier's grave,  
No idle, thoughtless jest,  
And think of hearts like mine and thine,  
That should be holy ground.  
For him, at night, no tattoo rolls  
Thunder from the drum.  
No costly marble marks the place  
Recording deeds of fame,  
But marked the soldier's grave,  
The silent soldier's grave.

**THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE UNITED STATES TROOPS FROM MATAMOROS.**  
[Special Dispatch to the N. Y. World.]  
NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 7.—The Galveston Bulletin of the 14th instant says it has private information that Escobedo and Canales, not as friends, and that Escobedo now commands the army of Matamoras, the United States forces having subsequently withdrawn.  
The last part of this information is, however, considered doubtful.  
The withdrawal of the United States troops from Matamoras.  
[Special Dispatch to the N. Y. World.]  
NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 7.—Bismarck's advice, that after the reception of dispatches from General Sheridan, the United States troops were immediately withdrawn from Matamoras to the American side by Gen. Sledge, on the 1st inst., Canales then surrendered Matamoras to Escobedo unconditionally, they agreeing to fight the common enemy of their country.

**The Prisoners at the Dry Tortugas.**  
A special committee of the Florida State Legislature has made a report on the subject of the prisoners at the Dry Tortugas, who number about five hundred.  
The imprisonment of some of them, Colonel St. Louis Greely, formerly of the Confederate army, appears to have been attended with circumstances of peculiar hardship. Colonel Greely proved himself in India and in Turkey, to be a gallant soldier, and served with distinguished bravery in various capacities during the war in the Southern States. He voluntarily resigned his commission, ran the blockade, and went North, and, to take the words of the report before us, "while amusing himself hunting upon the prairies of Illinois, to his surprise he was arrested for conspiring with John A. Baker and others, to rebel against the Government of the United States, and to burn the City of Chicago. There were six others arrested at the same time, and tried with him on the same charge, none of whom he had ever seen or had any communication with, reaching it, it is said, for him to have conspired with them. The five have all been released, and Colonel Greely, whose name, was sentenced to be hanged, being an Englishman and without friends or political influence." The sentence of death was commuted to imprisonment for life at the Dry Tortugas, and there is no prospect of Colonel Greely's release.

**The "Immortal J. N." Visits Mr. Davis.**  
The Norfolk Virginian of Saturday gives the following account of a comical change in the name of "J. N." upon Mr. Davis. The individual "J. N." is well known to the press of the South as the incoherent expounder of a theory on "The Pressure." The Baltimore steamer Thursday morning brought a notorious, if not distinguished, visitor to the Fortress, none less than the "Immortal J. N." he of the dirty newspaper scrap, and dirtier looks.  
"J. N." came on a mission, the accomplishment of which he has been pursuing ever since the imprisonment of Jefferson Davis, that is suffering in his stead.  
"J. N." made formal application for admission, and while knocking around loose, awaiting a response to his application, he walked, walking around the ramparts, Mr. Davis himself.  
"J. N." approached, hat in hand, and spoke thus:  
"Whom have I the honor of addressing? Is this not the Hon. Jefferson Davis, President of the late Confederate States?"  
Mr. Davis signified the affirmative.  
"J. N." is there any impediment, any barrier to my admission into the Fortress?"  
"I am on an important mission," he said, "and I am informed that there was none; the guards had been removed."  
Thereupon "J. N." was ushered in, and proceeded with much familiarity to apply his "pressure" to his subject, increasing it as he proceeded up to a maximum of one hundred pounds to the square inch of endurance.  
"J. N." proceeded unfolding his plan in a stream of his peculiar eloquence, until his entertainer, becoming convinced that a native had been admitted into his quarters, dispatched the porter of the day for a glass of water to remove his visitor.

**How Tobacco is Consumed in Europe.**  
In the city of Hamburg, Germany, the manufacture of tobacco gives employment to more than 10,000 persons, who turn out 150,000,000 cigars a year, valued at \$2,000,000. From Havana and Manila, Hamburg imports 18,000,000 cigars a year, making an aggregate, including its own production, of 168,000,000 cigars, 132,000,000 of which are exported, leaving 36,000,000 for home consumption—allowing 10,000 cigars a day to an adult male population of 450,000.  
In England, with a population of 21,000,000 in 1861, the consumption of tobacco was 7,132 pounds, an average of 12 ounces per head for the entire population; in 1851, with a population of 24,491,439, the consumption reached 15,533,811 pounds, or 13 1/2 ounces per head; and in 1841, population 27,462,692, the consumption was 25,063,841 pounds, or 17 ounces per head. In Belgium it averages about 73 1/2 ounces per head.  
In France the consumption of tobacco is 18 1/2 ounces per head, nearly half of which is smuggled in. Denmark, 1818, it was 70 ounces per head; and in Belgium it averages about 73 1/2 ounces per head.

**Agents Wanted For THE LIFE AND CAMPAIGNS OF GENERAL (STONEMAN) JACKSON.**  
By Prof. R. L. Dabney, D. D., of Va.  
THE Standard Biography of the immortal Hero, The only edition authorized by his widow and published for her pecuniary benefit. The author a personal friend and Chief of Staff of the Confederate Army.  
The Richmond Inquirer says: "In studying this life of Jackson, the reader has the capital advantage of knowing the man as he was, and may safely abandon himself to the story." Jackson's greatness shines out upon the world in the life of the hero, and the reader is inspired by his genius, and to it he gave his life. Of his justice he had the most solemn convictions, and for it he daily besought to heaven fervent prayers, from a soul of singular piety, and with a faith that seemed to pierce the veil, and see the Father in heaven.  
This is the best selling book we ever published. Over 20,000 copies already sold. A rare chance for agents. Sell it in all parts of the country, and see our terms, which the press generally says of the work. Address: N. J. PUBLISHING CO., Corner 7th and Main Sts., Richmond, Va. 45-1m

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There can be no doubt that well-managed railroads constitute the best property in the country. Sir Morton Peto, in his recent work in the Northern and Western States, declared that it was impossible to drop a railroad anywhere in America that would not pay. N. Y. Intelligencer.

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Very good. And so on.

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There can be no doubt that well-managed railroads constitute the best property in the country. Sir Morton Peto, in his recent work in the Northern and Western States, declared that it was impossible to drop a railroad anywhere in America that would not pay. N. Y. Intelligencer.

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"An unusually large attendance of the members were present, and when, at the hour of noon, the sharp rap of the Speaker's gavel arrested the attention of the whole assemblage, and prayer was announced, all the members engaged with unusual devotion in the exercise. The chaplain of the House, Dr. Boynton, then made a Radical stump speech with his eyes shut. This must have been distasteful to the piety of the Democratic members."  
This is not the questionable character of a partisan foe, but the salient criticism of a political friend.—National Intelligencer.

**General Grant's Report—No Radicalism in It.**  
HEADQUARTERS ARMED SERVICES, WASHINGTON, Nov. 21, 1866.  
SIR: Since my report for 1865, the volunteer force then in service has been almost entirely replaced by the regular army, mostly organized under the act of Congress of March 3, 1865. Passing from civil war of the magnitude to which the United States has been engaged to government through the years, it has been necessary to keep a military force in the late rebellious States to insure the execution of law and to protect life and property against the acts of those who yet know no law but force. This class has proven to be much smaller than could have been expected after such a conflict. It has, however, been sufficiently formidable to justify the course which has been pursued. On the whole, the condition of the States that were in rebellion against the Government may be regarded as good enough to warrant the hope that but a short time will intervene before the bulk of the troops now occupying them can be sent to our growing Territories, where they are so much needed.  
Very good. And so on.

**Notice.**  
THE subscriber having qualified as administrator upon the estate of Woodman S. Salisbury, deceased, at December Term, A. D. 1866, of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for New Hanover County, hereby notifies all persons indebted to said estate, and all persons having claims against said estate, to present them to him, at his residence, or at his office, on or before the 1st day of January next, at which time he will pay all debts due to said estate, and will settle all claims against said estate. Dated this 10th day of December, 1866. DAVID J. NIXON, Administrator. 64-161-30

**State of North Carolina.**  
CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT.  
Appointments: Quarter Sessions—August Term, 1866.  
Original Attachment.  
D. H. HARRIS, Clerk of the County Court of Columbus County.  
[Pr. Adv. \$15.] 42-66

**STATE NEWS.**  
CHEROKEE AND DANIELS RAILROAD.  
This company has created a large and commodious freight depot at Cherokee, and is building a fine passenger depot at the same place. These buildings, it is said, add much to the appearance of the town. New buildings have been put up at stations along the road, and new rolling stock has been put on the line.  
Our Newbern neighbors are making great preparations for the tournament to come off at that city on the first of January. Gov. Vance is to deliver an address on the occasion.  
County Court is in session at Newbern this week. Nothing of importance had transpired up to Tuesday night.  
A group of men, on Tuesday evening last, a party of five negroes made a murderous attack on Mr. Joel Heath, a most respectable citizen of Lenoir, near Piggs Bridge, about six miles below Kingston. In the conflict Mr. Heath killed one of the negroes, and severely wounded another, who is not expected to live, but said to relate Mr. Heath lost his life. A horse belonging to the negro party was also killed. An inquest was held yesterday, but we have not heard the result.

**A Clear Case of Kidnapping.**  
In September, 1865, a colored girl named Rebecca, who had been taken from the State of Virginia, was found by the Freedmen's Bureau to a party then residing in Georgetown. Her employer last spring came to Washington, and not being willing to pay the expense of the girl at the hotel where he was boarding, he turned her over to a party who offered to have her paid for her wages. As subsequent to the original employer went to Philadelphia, and during the last summer wrote to the girl, requesting her to go to that city. The girl refused to do so, and remained with her former employer. The Freedmen's Bureau then sent her to Washington and sent for the girl, saying that he desired to see her. Not supposing that she would be long away, she went without shawl or bonnet, was hustled in a hack, taken to the cars, and thence to Philadelphia. A demand was then made of the girl and the money due, which was refused, unless the girl herself gave an order for them.  
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## Manufacture vs. Agriculture.

In a late number we alluded to a *law* in political economy, "that all nations must be poor and weak who rely on their exports of produce and raw material to a distant market," and that "manufacturing nations grow rich." But we expressed the opinion that this law was only true with certain modifications; these modifications are to be found in race, natural advantages, emigration and the like differences among nations, which make one pursuit more profitable than another to the particular nation or people to whom the law is to be applied. With such qualification we may safely avow our faith in this law. Upon the first clause of the above political maxim, we referred to the Southern and Western States of America as furnishing ample proof that transportation to a distant market would always lessen the profits of the producer to the extent of the price of transportation; and that the greater the distance to market, the greater must the expense be. Hence the Southern and Western planters and farmers had remained poor, while the sterile region of New England, by employing their capital in manufacturing, had been steadily growing rich, and we cited some proofs of this.

We shall now take up the second section of this economic law, viz: "that manufacturing nations grow rich." Perhaps no country furnishes such irrefutable testimony of this truth as Great Britain; and here again we must have reference to the modifying circumstance of *raw*, to which we before alluded, for we are devout believers in the superior qualities of the Anglo-Saxon race; their foresight, their prudence, their love of home—of erect a system of government, in which the rights of all classes are better protected than in any European government; and the virtues we have alluded to, have alone continued to them the protection of their rights amid the most terrific convulsions in the other governments of Europe. Perhaps their *industrial situation* may also have contributed much to their defense against the stormy agitations which from time to time have unsettled and overthrown the Continental systems of Government. Whatever these qualifying circumstances may be worth, in forming our estimate of this law of political economy, it is certain that in wealth and power Great Britain exceeds not only all the present powers of Europe, but Rome, "in her pride of place," as mistress of the world, cannot be compared to her. There must be a reason for this; for Great Britain was not always thus great and powerful. It has only been within the last century and a half that she has "so got the start of this majestic world" as "to bear the palm alone." For, as we shall see by a comparison with other nations, France alone approaches her in annual products. We take the true secrets of her success to be, first, that all her exports are in the form of manufactured articles, and most generally these are in the shape which will best bear transportation; and second, that every article manufactured by a British hand is protected against competition.

She is the greatest exporter of manufactures in the world. She is also the richest country in the world. These facts are established by the statistics of Europe. We find them laid down in Hunt's Magazine, a work of high character. Now, these facts have an intimate relation. Is it not the relation between cause and effect? Great Britain exports annually six hundred millions of dollars worth of manufactured goods, of which one hundred millions are sent into the United States.

France exports annually about three hundred and seventy millions dollars worth of manufactured goods. She is next to Great Britain in exports, and next to her in wealth; and here again the facts bear such relation to each other as may be called that between cause and consequence.

Now, what do the United States export? O, rather, what did they before the war? About three hundred and forty millions of dollars worth of all things, and only thirty millions dollars worth of manufactured goods!!! If manufactures are so clearly the source of national wealth, does it not behoove the Southern States to attempt the erection of factories, both of cotton and wool? Are the Southern States not better situated for the first than any other part of America? Are they not well situated for the manufacture of wool as any other part of the United States? Without *wealth* we shall never have political consideration or protection extended to any of our rights; politicians may theorize on the sources of national wealth till dooms day, but they will never be able to reason away these stubborn facts, "that the wealthiest nations are those employed in manufactures," and "that the poorest and weakest are such as are exclusively engaged in agricultural pursuits."

## To our Patrons.

All bills due this office are now being made out, and will be presented for payment within a few days. We trust our patrons will bear this in mind and be prepared to hand over their respective amounts when their bills are presented. "Short settlements make long friends." We need the money due us.

## The Howard Amendment—General Sickles' Order.

A private telegram from Raleigh, dated the 13th inst., informs us that "the Legislature rejected the Howard amendment to-day. There was one vote in the Senate and nine in the House of Commons in favor of it."

"The Legislature has authorized Governor Worth and two Commissioners to proceed to Washington in regard to Gen. Sickles' order relative to corporal punishment, by the courts of North Carolina. The Governor has invited ex-Judge Rufin and ex-Governor Swain to compose the Commission. They will all three leave Raleigh to-morrow night for Washington."

## Reputation.

A member of the late Convention, who exerted himself greatly to effect the reputation of the "war debt," as it was called, became greatly indignant at an intimation that the supporters of that measure were somewhat responsible for the evidence given by debtors, as a class, of a general desire to repudiate all debts. Now, notwithstanding the indignant disclaimer to which we have referred, that measure, "the repudiation of the war debt," first suggested, not only the practicability, but the justice and propriety of repudiating all debts. Our people could not see, and have never been able to see, why a measure which destroyed, at one blow, millions of debts due to our banks, literary and charitable institutions, which reduced to beggary thousands of our people, generally the most helpless among us, old persons, widows and orphans, on the allegation that those were rebel debts, should be regarded as just and expedient, whilst all other debts, including those due by the State before the war were regarded as sacred. It is true, that the measure was passed, at last, under duress, but it was openly and most zealously advocated before any duress was applied. It would be but simple justice if some of those who advocated the repudiation of State bonds, issued during the war, should suffer for the loss of such as they held issued before the war.

As it was predicted, this measure gave a new impetus to the desire for repudiation by many classes of our people, and the agitation has gone on increasing until at this time there are before the Legislature now in session, according to the Raleigh *Sentinel*, not less than twenty bills for the "relief of the people." The *Sentinel*, whilst implicitly, if not directly, admitting the evil of all State laws, seems to be pandering to this desire of private repudiation, a consummation which can never be realized, and the agitation of which will end only in bitter disappointment.

But, says the *Sentinel*, "The relief proposed by the State Law of the Convention in this State, rather increases than allays the alarm of the people." Pray, then, what does the *Sentinel* propose? If a law which gives four years from the return time before the whole debt can be collected, increases the alarm of the people, what will decrease it? If "honest debtors" cannot meet their liabilities within six years from the date of the surrender, when will they be able to meet them? what law will satisfy them? We will answer—No law save our repudiating all debts. This is the feeling which the "great repudiation measure" of the late Convention originated, and which has been fostered and kept up by denunciations throughout the State.

We propose very briefly to consider the questions—Who among us are agitating the question of repudiation?

Has the Legislature the power to pass a State Law?

What will be the effect of such a law if passed?

In the first place, then, we deny in toto, that the mercantile and agricultural classes favor the agitation of this question. As a general rule, they are satisfied with the State Law of the Convention. The agitation comes, principally, from that class who, in the days of their prosperity, lived in luxury, and never paid, or thought of paying, a debt, and who now desire to retain what is left of their property and let the creditors, who relied on their pledged faith, suffer to the last cent. It is not the mercantile class; it is not the industrious farming class, from whom this agitation comes, but it is the class, as a general rule, which we have specified.

In the second place, there is no man in the Legislature, or out of it, who has the ability to draft a State Law which will stand the test of legal adjudication. The Constitution of the United States expressly forbids any State to pass a law impairing the obligation of contracts. And any law which may have for its object the hindrance or delay of creditors in collecting their debts, is prohibited by this clause in the Constitution of the United States. So, also, the Constitution reserves to Congress the power to pass "a general Bankrupt Law." So that it is not in human ingenuity to frame a State law which can effectually protect from sale, under execution for debt, the property of the debtor. Every lawyer knows this to be true, and knows also that every attempt to effect such purposes on the part of a State Legislature, is only a mockery, a delusion and a snare."

It may be asked, then, if the State Law of the Convention is not amenable to these objections. The best lawyers are clearly of the opinion that if forced on the Supreme Court of the State, that tribunal will hold that law to be unconstitutional. But, as we said in a recent article, the law seems to be acquiesced in as a fair compromise between the debtor and the creditor, and both the bar and the judiciary seem disposed to let it run its course. But that law contains this clause, to-wit:

"The purpose of inserting this clause was, we are informed, that the people might be brought to contemplate the ultimate liquidation of indebtedness, and, accordingly, devote their energies to the accomplishment of the task before them, that they might be assured of some fixed policy in the law, on this subject, and not be deluded by every demagogue who might think proper to take the stump with a scheme of repudiation on his own account. Such was the purpose of the clause—what is its effect?"

The Convention has been implicitly, and will be fully and directly sustained by the Supreme Court, and the clause of the law we have quoted, effectually takes away from the Legislature all power to "repeal, alter or modify" the State Law of the Convention. We are not, indeed, prepared to say what would be the effect of doing away, altogether, with the Spring Terms of the Supreme Courts; but we are confident in the opinion, that what the Legislature cannot do directly, it cannot do indirectly, and that any law to do away with the Spring Term would be held void.

But suppose that all these considerations are disregarded by the Legislature now in session, what will be the result?

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## First. A total prostration of credit, both at home and abroad—the greatest evil that can befall a people.

Secondly. The passage of a law by the Congress of the United States, giving both the Circuit and District Courts of the United States jurisdiction over sums of one hundred dollars. And, further, allowing a note to pass by endorsement from the citizens of one State to that of another, for the purpose simply of giving the United States Courts jurisdiction thereof.

What then will become of any State Law we may pass? It will be a mere dead letter on the statute book. Debtors will be carried into the United States Courts, and will have reason to regret the schemes of those who are now so anxious to relieve the people!

It is needless for us to say that no one feels more keenly the misfortune of our people than we do—no one can be more anxious than we are to extend all practicable relief. But we deem it our duty, as editors of a public journal, to warn our people against the numberless schemes for "relief" which are now being agitated, as we feel well assured that they can end in nothing but disappointment.

## "Springfields."

We promised in our last notice of this sort of refinement to call up from memory's storehouse some of the traditions of the days immediately preceding the Revolution of '76—days in which the principles asserted in that contest were discussed in every house. We referred to some of the guests of "Springfields" in these ambrosian feasts—names to which the muse of history has since given a celebrity little anticipated in those days. There was the elegant and accomplished Harriet, subsequently a Major General in the army of the Revolution, and who early in the struggle rendered distinguished service to the cause at Norfolk, in expelling Lord Dunmore from Virginia. For this service the Congress of North Carolina, then in session at Halifax, tendered him a vote of thanks, and the reply of Gen. Howe is one of the most graceful, modest, and yet manly bursts of eloquence we have ever read. His social qualities gave a zest to every company into which he was introduced, and the beauty of his manners gave a charm to his conversation rarely equalled anywhere.

The accomplished Dr. Estlin, who addressed a letter to Sterne, as *Stowden* in its character as the walking-stick by which it was accompanied, and was the cause of the letter, and which was said to be so crooked and eccentric, as scarcely to be able to lie still on the ground. The letter called forth a reply from the celebrated Divine as full of humor—we will not say as any pages of Tristram Shandy, but as any of his sermons. We might name, as frequent guests at "Springfields," Drs. Lloyd and Hall, gentlemen of the highest professional reputation, the Hon. Cornelius Harnett, Wm. Hill, Esquire, and Col. Wm. Dry, of Wilmington. The two last were not only personal and intimate friends of Judge Moore, but were connexions of his by intermarriages with members of his family. The fame of Harnett has become national, and perhaps few of the patriots of that day infused more of his own heroic spirit into the Conventions and Congresses of which he was a member, and of which he was more than once the presiding officer; but the people of Cape Fear claim him as one of their brightest jewels, and, alas, one of the martyrs of liberty. His heroic and sainted ashes repose in our midst, and fancy hears in the sigh of the evening breeze the requiem of liberty over her martyr's grave. The thoughts which are long were to fill the air of all America, were household thoughts only, in the times of which we speak. Moore and his guests often bronched the doctrines which were then too bold and daring for the cautious, and too deep and enlarged for the superficial. Had tradition failed to preserve some of these eloquent patriot's views, we cannot doubt that they were well and fully discussed long before they filled the columns of the "Cape Fear Mercury." Family tradition has brought down, even to our own days, the visit of Mr. Quincy, of Boston, and others, to "Springfields," when that sterling patriot came to the South to feel the pulses of the great American heart in this rural district, and be able to report to his friends of the North, whether or not those pulses kept time with theirs on the mighty themes of the day, and his joy at finding brothers among strangers—men who were ready soon after to proclaim "the cause of Boston is the cause of all," he himself has reported in well remembered words.

These feasts, spread by genius and patriotism to welcome wit and worth to hospitable halls, should have had the pen of Boswell to preserve their memory. But who can doubt that amid such "high thoughts seated in hearts of courtesy," there were many which deserved perpetuity, not less for their intrinsic excellence than the point and grace and elegance in which they were expressed. The attraction of such minds, in such circumstances, must have produced much of that light which soon illuminated our political hemisphere. The transcendent fascinations of Moore's colloquial powers drew around him the choicest spirits of the time, and the respect which has been dignified by the residence of genius and taste, can never cease to be an object of interest; and so long as we shall hold in veneration "the Conscript Fathers" of American liberty, *Springfields* will be remembered with grateful interest.

General Sedgewick, who has been attracting some little attention by his movements on the Rio Grande, is a native of Louisville. The *Courier* says of him: "Sedgewick was, before the war, a clerk on Main street, in this city, and was always looked on as rather 'small potatoes.'"

At a regular meeting of the New York Chamber of Commerce Thursday afternoon, a memorial was read, praying Congress to abolish the export duty on cotton. A resolution was adopted petitioning Government to employ a squadron of naval vessels to make the necessary soundings for a new cable to connect the United States with France and Southern Europe. It was thought that such a line might be laid from Cape Cod to Montauk Point, at a cost of \$6,000,000.

## NORTH CAROLINA LEGISLATURE.

SENATE. Thursday, Dec. 11, 1866.

The Senate concurred in the proposition of the House to raise a committee of Conference upon the question of adjournment. Second reading. [This committee had not reported at the adjournment of the day's session, but it is understood that they have agreed to adjourn on the 20th inst., to meet on the 22d January.]

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION. Mr. Adams introduced a bill to amend the Constitution of the State, to amend the Judiciary Committee. The proposition to amend the Constitution was to elect Justices of the peace by the people, and to enable petty misdemeanors to be tried before a Justice of the peace, without jury.

Mr. Respass introduced a bill to establish the county Jail, to be made up from parts of Beaufort and Craven counties. Referred to the committee on Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Paschal's bill to declare valid an act of the General Assembly, to amend the charter of the Chatham Railroad, having been favorably reported upon by the committee on Internal Improvements, and passed by the House, it was now brought up for consideration in the Senate.

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## SENATE.

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